

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) An optical information recording medium comprising a recording film capable of information recording and reproduction by means of a laser beam, wherein said recording film has a plurality of crystalline particles and an intergranular phase present at the boundary between said crystalline particles, wherein said crystalline particles have an average particle diameter of 5 - 50 nm and a standard deviation of particle diameters is not more than 10% of the average particle diameter and said crystalline particles comprise V oxide, Mn oxide, Fe oxide, or Cu oxide.

2. (original) An optical information recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said crystalline particles are selected from the group consisting of V_2O_5 , Mn_2O_3 , $Fe_2O_3(\gamma)$, and CuO particles.

3. (original) An optical information recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between V_2O_5 and V_2O_3 .

4. (original) An optical information recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between Mn_2O_3 and Mn_3O_4 .

5. (original) An optical information recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(\gamma)$ and Fe_2O_3

(a).

6. (original) An optical information recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between CuO and Cu_2O .

7. (original) An optical information recording device which comprises a recording film and an optical head, said recording film being capable of information recording and reproduction by means of a laser beam and comprising a plurality of crystalline particles and an intergranular phase present at the boundary between said crystalline particles, wherein said crystalline particles have an average particle diameter of 5 - 50 nm and a standard deviation of particle diameters is not more than 10% of the average particle diameter and said crystalline particles comprise V oxide, Mn oxide, Fe Oxide, or Cu oxide, said optical head supplying said recording film with near-field light so processed as to have a diameter smaller than the wavelength of said laser beam.

8. (currently amended) An optical information recording ~~medium-device~~ according to claim 7, wherein said crystalline particles are selected from the group consisting of V_2O_5 , Mn_2O_3 , $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(\gamma)$, and CuO particles.

9. (currently amended) An optical information recording ~~medium-device~~ according to claim 8, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between V_2O_5 and V_2O_3 .

10. (currently amended) An optical information recording ~~medium~~device according to claim 8, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between Mn_2O_3 and Mn_3O_4 .

11. (currently amended) An optical information recording ~~medium~~device according to claim 8, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between $Fe_2O_3(\gamma)$ and $Fe_2O_3(\alpha)$.

12. (currently amended) An optical information recording ~~medium~~device according to claim 8, wherein said crystalline particles undergo phase transformation between CuO and Cu_2O .

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